

We claim:

1. A repeating device for relaying communication to a plurality of receiver-side telephones connected to a local area network;

said repeating device comprising a function for requesting a response from said plurality of receiver-side telephones indicating their availability to receive a call, a function for selecting out of the plurality of receiver-side telephones that responded a telephone to which the call is to be connected, and a function for notifying the address of the selected receiver-side telephone to a caller-side telephone.

2. A repeating device according to claim 1, wherein said device further comprises a function for receiving a transfer request from a user.

3. A telephone capable of generating a call to a plurality of receiver-side telephones being connected to a local area network without designating the address of the receiver;

said telephone comprising a function for requesting a response from said plurality of receiver-side telephones indicating their availability to receive a call, a function for selecting out of the plurality of receiver-side telephones that responded a telephone to which the call is to be connected, and a function for generating a call addressed to said selected telephone.

4. A telephone connected to a local area network;

said telephone comprising, upon receiving a transfer request from a user, a function for requesting a response from a plurality of receiver-side telephones indicating their availability to receive a call, a function for selecting out of the plurality of receiver-side telephones that responded a telephone to which the call is to be connected, and a function for notifying the address of the selected telephone to a caller-side telephone.

5. A recording medium capable of being read by a computer and storing a program to be executed by said computer, said recording medium used either for a device for relaying communication to a plurality of receiver-side telephones being connected to a local area network, a telephone being connected to a local area network, or a telephone capable of generating a call to a plurality of receiver-side telephones being connected to a local area network without having to specify the address of the receiver telephone,

wherein said recording medium comprises any of the following sets of functions:

a function for requesting a response from said plurality of receiver-side telephones indicating their availability to receive a call, a function for selecting out of the plurality of receiver-side telephones that responded a telephone to which

the call is to be connected, and a function for notifying the address of the selected receiver-side telephone to a caller-side telephone;

a function for requesting a response from said plurality of receiver-side telephones indicating their availability to receive a call, a function for selecting out of the plurality of receiver-side telephones that responded a telephone to which the call is to be connected, and a function for generating a call addressed to said selected telephone; or

a function for requesting, upon receiving a transfer request from a user, a response from a plurality of receiver-side telephones indicating their availability to receive a call, a function for selecting out of the plurality of receiver-side telephones that responded a telephone to which the call is to be connected, and a function for notifying the address of the selected telephone to a caller-side telephone.